



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kouji Takahashi et al. Art Unit : 2826
Serial No. : 10/632,623 Examiner : Victor A. Mandala, Jr.
Filed : August 1, 2003
Title : CIRCUIT DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF OCTOBER 1, 2004

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application.

Claims 18-21 were previously withdrawn.

Applicants thank Examiner for allowing claims 15-17.

Claims 1, 3, 7-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0133943 (Sakamoto et al.) Enclosed with these Remarks are Declarations under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 by Kouji Takahashi and Noriaki Sakamoto, both inventors named in the pending application.

The enclosed Declarations establish that, to the extent the subject matter of the rejected claims is disclosed in the Sakamoto et al. patent publication and corresponding issued U.S. Patent No. 6,706,547 (Sakamoto et al.,) those disclosures were derived from the inventors of the pending application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FEBRUARY 28, 2005
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Patricia F. Suchanek
Signature

PATRICIA F. SUCHANEK
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

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Attorney's Docket No.: 14225-019001 / F1030316US00


In view of the enclosed Declarations, the applicants submit that the Sakamoto et al. patent publication and the corresponding issued patent are not prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and that, therefore, the claim rejections under that section should be withdrawn. Claims 1, 3, 7-14 should now be in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 4-6, depend from claim 1 and, therefore, should be in condition for allowance as well.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Enclosed is a \$450 check for the Petition for Two-Month Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/28/2005



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